Week 2 – This body life

Purpose – to remind us that we are each needed in this core part of the church's mission.

1) Why do you attend Tove Valley Baptist Fellowship?

2) How do you demonstrate your commitment to this church?

3) Which of the following words/phrases do you associate with Church Meetings? (**For clarity**: this is the meeting we tend to call the Members' Meeting, *not* the Sunday service.)

   If you like, scan the QR code, or go to slido.com and enter the code #1040 536, and answer the question there. It is completely anonymous. Jennie will see the results and may share them with Stuart and the elders.

Boring	Upsetting	Exciting	Spiritual
I feel excluded from them	People mostly just moan and grumble	Helpful for staying informed	An opportunity to air my views
A genuine chance to shape church plans	Nothing changes after our discussions	I rarely have anything to add to discussions	A place where the body of Christ collectively discerns God's will

4) In her research, Ruth Moriarty found that the main reasons people don't attend Church Meetings are:
   a. Experience of conflict
   b. Lack of understand of what they are for/why we have them
   c. They are excluded by the design of the meeting (e.g. time, location, format…)

   Which of these have been an issue for you or people you know of?

5) Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-27.
   What relevance do you think this passage has for Church Meetings?

6) Look at v. 7. Last week we looked at the teaching that each believer has been given the Holy Spirit, and he helps us understand the mind of Christ. What does this verse add to that?

7) Vv. 14-21 describe people who feel, or have been told, that their gifts/contributions aren't useful to the body. What is your experience of this in the context of Church Meetings?

8) Read 1 Peter 2:4-5.
   These verses are where we get the concept of "the priesthood of all believers". Ruth Moriarty says that Baptists understand this to mean that "all believers have a right and a responsibility to read, interpret and apply the teachings of Scripture." How do you think this relates to Church Meetings?

9) We have noted that many people have experienced conflict, exclusion or other hurts within Church Meetings. Pray for one another and others you know of around anything that needs healing.